

### **REMARKS**

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

#### **Disposition of Claims**

Claims 1-40 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 18, 35-37, and 39-40 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 18, and 37.

#### **Objection(s)**

Claims 1, 11, 15, 28, and 32 are objected to for informalities. Claims 1, 11, 15, 28, and 32 have been amended to clarify that the request for print object data is sent to the host.

#### **Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 112**

Claims 6-10, 23-27, and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite due to lack of clarity of the claim language. Claims 6, 23, and 36 have been amended in this reply in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions to clarify the present invention recited. Specifically, claims 6 and 23 have been amended to recite "requesting print object data to be arranged within said divided prescribed partial areas *from* said host device based on said first print setting information." This is to make the claim language clear in that the printer requests the print object data from the host, and the print object data is then arranged within the divided prescribed partial areas. Further, claim 36 has been amended to replace "these data" with "bit map data." Claims

7-10 are dependent on claim 6, and claims 24-27 are dependent on claim 23, and are patentable for the same reasons as claims 6 and 23, respectively. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

### **Rejection under 35 U.S.C § 102**

Claim 39 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,184,996 (“Gase”). Claim 39 has been amended to clarify the present invention as recited. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claim, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 39 has been amended to clarify the relationship between the setting request function and the data output means. Specifically, amended claim 39 now recites that the data output means reads print object data “based on command data relating to a data request sent from said printer *in response to the command data output from the setting request function.*” Gase fails to disclose or suggest that the print object data is read based on a response sent by the printer to the command data that is output from a *setting request function*. The change button disclosed in Gase (col. 4, ll. 20-37) is not the same as, or equivalent to, the setting request function of the claimed invention. Particularly, the change button of Gase is not used by a data output means to read print object data. Thus, for at least this reason, claim 39 is patentable over Gase. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

### **Rejections under 35 U.S.C § 103**

Claims 1-5, 11-17, 35, 37, 38, and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pipeline Corporation, March 1997 (“Pipeline”) in view of Gase.

Claims 1, 11, 35, 37, 38, and 40 have been amended by this reply to clarify the present invention as recited. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to clearly define “first print setting information” as print specification information. More specifically, print specification information is defined in the specification of the present application as information relating to print quality, page format, etc. (see, *e.g.*, page 43 of the present specification). The periodic access instruction in Pipeline (col. 1, ll. 31-45 of Pipeline) is not equivalent to the print setting information. Specifically, Pipeline discloses “setting the printer to periodically access a prescribed list Web site for receiving print objects.” Amended independent claim 1 clarifies that print setting information is information such as the *format of the page to be printed, the print quality*, etc. Thus, it is clear that setting a printer to periodically access a Web sit for receiving print objects is *not* the same as the print specification information recited in the claimed invention. Therefore, Pipeline does not disclose all of the elements recited in claim 1.

Further, Gase fails to disclose that which Pipeline lacks. Specifically, Gase fails to disclose or suggest print specification information as defined in the claimed invention. Gase discloses “a change button that alters a highlighted field on a page.” Further, Gase discloses that the change button may be used to move a print job in the print queue to a higher position in the queue, or change the desired number of copies of the page to be printed (col. 4, ll. 20-37 of Gase). However, Gase does not disclose print specification information as page format or print quality. Changing the number of copies or moving

the print job in the queue is clearly *not* the same as specifying the print quality or the page format of the print job. Thus, it is clear that Pipeline and Gase, whether considered separately or in combination, do not render amended independent claim 1 as obvious. Dependent claims 2-5 and 11-17 are patentable for at least the same reasons. Further, independent claims 35, 37, and 40 have been amended to recite similar allowable subject matter (*i.e.*, print specification information) and are patentable over Pipeline and Gase for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1. Dependent claim 38 is patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 18-22, 28-34, and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pipeline in view of Gase and U.S. Patent No. 5,138,696 ("Nagata"). Claims 18, 28, and 36 have been amended by this reply. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 18 and 36 have been amended to include the same limitation as stated above with respect to claims 1, 35, 37, and 40 (*i.e.*, print specification information). As described above, neither Pipeline nor Gase disclose or suggest this limitation of the claimed invention. Further, Nagata fails to disclose or suggest that which Pipeline and Gase lack. Nagata relates to a printer provided with a font memory card attached to the printer for storing data representing outlines of characters, etc. Nagata fails to disclose or suggest print specification information as defined in the claimed invention. Thus, it is clear that Pipeline, Gase, and Nagata, whether considered separately or in combination, fail to render the claimed invention obvious. Dependent

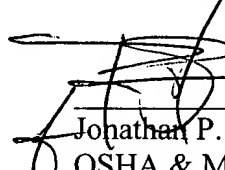
claims 19-22 and 28-34 are patentable for at least the same reasons as above.  
Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

**Conclusion**

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04783/016001).

Respectfully submitted,

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